Recent Hike in Fertilizer price in Gujarat

556. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an American consignment of wheat of 22,000 tonnes off loaded in Gujarat was smelling awefully and it is proposed to fumigate it before pushing it into PDS;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that fumigation will render it more injurious to health; and

(d) whether Government have made any enquiry into the import of damaged wheat which is unfit for human consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) A consignment of 22,318 tonnes of U.S. wheat brought by vessel 'JAG VIJAY' at Veraval Port in Gujarat was fumigated because of presence of some weevils. However, the stock did not have any bad smell. Occurrence of weevils in foodgrains and the process of fumigation to contain insect activity are normal features, especially in tropical and sub-tropical climates like that of India. For scientific preservation, fumigation of foodgrain stocks with the specified fumigants at the prescribed dosage is an approved technique which is widely in use throughout the world as also with the Food Corporation of India, Central and State Warehousing Corporations and other foodgrain handling agencies in our country.

(c) Question does not arise.

Irregularities by C.W.C. Depots

557. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that irregularities have been found following the inspection of the depots of Central Warehousing Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the details of the warehouses involved in the said irregularities during the last three years; and

(c) what action Government have taken against the officers concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Certain irregularities have been found during inspection in 20 warehouses out of the total 470 warehouses of Central Warehousing Corporation, during the last 3 years.

(b) and (c) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

List of warehouses where irregularities were observed during the last three years and action taken thereon.

S./No.	Name of the centre where irregularities have been found	Nature of Irregularities	Action Taken
1	2	3	4
1	Chandigarh	200 bags of DAP have been delivered without authority.	Departmental enquiry has been initiated against three officials.
2	Nabha	Abnormal storage loss of foodgrain.	The matter is under investigation.

1	2	3	4
	Year	No. of students Appeared	No. of students passed
3	Nabha (BD)	A higher storage loss observed.	One official has been charges sheeted. Two other officials are also being charge sheeted.
4	Jamshedpur	Unauthorised delivery of bonded goods without payment of custom duty. Noticed 20 bags shortage of wheat.	Warehouse Manager, Technical Asstt. and W.A.G.I. responsible were placed under suspension. Departmental enquiry initiated.
5	Morena-II	During inspection it was found that valuation of stock noted higher in the warehouse receipt.	After investigation, the charge could not be proved.
6	Kirti Nagar	Newsprint stocks were not reconciling with book balance.	The matter is under examination.
7	Hanumangarh	There was non accounting of 635 bags of fertilisers. Shortage of Rs. 326.45 and excess of 15·7 ltrs. of Malathion.	Matter is under investigation.
8	Bhiwadi	During inspection, it was observed that less utilisation of space was being shown than the actual utilisation.	Warehouse Manager and W.A.G II have been issued recordable warning.
9	Sri Ganga Nagar	Two bags of wheat were covered under the name of private party whereas these bags were pilfered from different stacks. Besides, 200 Empty gunnies were found short.	The Matter is under investigation.
10	Kota-I	During handing/taking over of the warehouse certain items were found short.	The matter is under investigation.
11	Kota-II	Variation in fertiliser stocks. Misappropriation were noticed.	The matter is under investigation'
12	Patna City	A huge quantity of STC oil was found short though this is 0.5 % loss.	The matter is under investigation.
13	Jhansi	A large variation in stocks of different commodities noticed.	The matter is under investigation.
14	Burdwan-II	There has been direct delivery of goods but shown to be delivered from the Warehouse as also tempering of records.	The matter is under investigation
15	Berhampur (Orissa)	Misappropriation of foodgrains stocks at the time of receipt by the H&T Contractor. There is also transit loss.	The matter is under investigation.

1	2		4
16	Sarul	Stocks delivered directly from the Rail Head but shown to be delivered from the Warehouse.	The matter is under investigation.
17	Budge-Budge-II	Shortage of STC Oil.	Warehouse Manager, Technical Asstt. One WAG. II and one Chowkidar placed under suspension and departmental proceedings initiated.
18	Virugambakkam	There was shortage in stocks of SAIL Steel.	The matter is under investigation.
19	Dalri	Defalcation of cash.	The services of the Warehouse Manager have been terminated.
20	Ranchi	Irregularity in appointment of H & T Contractor.	Warehouse Manager has been charge sheeted.

Import of deffected wheat

558. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Canadian consignment of 50,000 tonnes of wheat has been found to contain more husk than grain and unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what action Government have taken in the matter;

(d) how Government propose to dispose of this huge quantity of wheat which is unfit for human consumption; and

(e) what cost the wheat has been be sold through P.D.S.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) The estimated weighted average CIF cost of the Canadian Wheat works out to US $ 179.08 or Rs. 4657/- M.T. The existing Central Issue Price for wheat ex-FCI depot for distribution through PDS is Rs. 3300/- M.T.

Contribution of Gujarat to Central Pool

559. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is contribution of Gujarat to the Central Pool of foodgrains during the last three years; and

(b) the details of foodgrains, rice allotted to that State during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Gujarat does not contribute foodgrains to the Central Pool.

(b) The following quantities of rice and wheat have been allotted to the State Government of Gujarat from Central Pool for Public Distribution System during the years 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993:—